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**BOROUGH OF HIGH WYCOMBE**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

on the work of the

**Public Health Services  
1951**

**A. J. MUIR, M.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.**  
Medical Officer of Health

**W. A. SHARP, M.S.I.A.**  
Chief Sanitary Inspector



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## CONTENTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AS TO PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES (GENERAL) 1951	<i>Pages</i> 5—12
REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AS TO THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH, 1951 .....	13—27

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**STAFF :**

**Medical Officer of Health :**

A. J. MUIR, M.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.

**Chief Sanitary Inspector :**

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2/12/51).

**Public Analyst :**

ERIC VOELCKER, A.R.C.S., F.I.C.

**Senior Clerk :**

Mr. A. G. HALL.



**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of High Wycombe.**

I submit my eighth Annual Report on the Borough Health Services.

In the year 1951 there were 635 live births, giving a birth rate of 15.38 per 1,000 of the resident population. This was 17 more than in the previous year.

There were 438 deaths as against 397 in 1950. Of the total no fewer than 81 were due to Cancer. As this is mainly an affection of old age and as man's expectation of life continues to increase so therefore it follows that a greater proportion of all deaths will be due to this disease. This is the main reason for the increase although there is no doubt that more accurate diagnosis plays a part.

Tuberculosis claimed only 7 victims compared with 9 in 1950, 14 in 1949, 16 in 1948 and 22 in 1947. Notifications numbered 30, a reduction of 17 on the previous year's figure. Earlier ascertainment of cases and the use of antibiotic and chemotherapeutic agents have played an important part in reducing the mortality.

16 children under the age of one year died during 1951. This gives a mortality rate of 25.20 per 1,000 live births. This is a very satisfactory figure and is below that for the country as a whole.

During the year there were 514 notified cases of Measles and of course the number of actual cases would be much in excess of this as many were not notified. There was no death attributed to this affection. No other disease was unduly prevalent and for the fifth year in succession not a single case of Diphtheria was notified.

There were two cases of Poliomyelitis notified and it appears that this infectious disease has become endemic in the district and one must expect it to remain so for a considerable period.

There were only 45 notified cases of Whooping Cough and 11 of Scarlet Fever so that from the point of view of infectious disease the year has been a satisfactory one.

I thank the members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and my fellow officials and my staff for their help during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. MUIR,  
Medical Officer of Health

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Health Centre  
High Wycombe,  
October, 1952.

## SECTION I

### Statistics :

Area ... ..	7,091 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	41,300
Number of dwelling-houses ... ..	11,600
Rateable value as at 1/4/51 ... ..	£351,497
Product of a Penny Rate (Actual 1950/51)	£1,407 . 6 . 5

### Rainfall :

Pann Mill, Easton Street ... ..	38.09 ins.
Widdenton Park, Lane End ... ..	40.38 ins.

### Summary of Vital Statistics :

Live Births	Total	M.	F.	
Legitimate	609	309	300	
Illegitimate	26	11	15	
	—	—	—	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Total Births	635	320	315	—15.38
	—	—	—	
Still Births	15	8	7	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—23.08
				Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Deaths	438	237	201	—10.61

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes :

		Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	Nil	Nil	
Other Puerperal Causes ... ..	Nil	Nil	

### Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age :

Total Number of Deaths ... ..	16
Death Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births ...	25.20
Number of legitimate infant deaths ... ..	16
Legitimate death rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	26.27
Number of illegitimate infant deaths ... ..	Nil
Illegitimate death rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil



Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..	81
Measles (all ages) ... ..	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	Nil
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	2
Total Tuberculosis Deaths (all cases) ... ..	7
Tuberculosis Death Rate (all cases) ... ..	0.17
Total Deaths—Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	6
Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate ... ..	0.15
Total Deaths—Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	1
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate ... ..	0.02
Total Deaths—Respiratory (excluding Tuberculosis) ...	54
Respiratory Death Rate (excluding Tuberculosis) ...	1.31

### CAUSES OF DEATH

					1951		1950	
					M.	F.	M.	F.
1	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	4	2	7	—
2	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1	—	2	—
3	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	—	—	2	1
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
9	Other Infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
10	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	9	7	6	6
11	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	8	2	8	—
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	...	—	9	—	12
13	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	4	—	2
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	23	19	29	16
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	4	1	3	—
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	5	—	2
17	Vascular lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	14	35	19	26
18	Coronary Disease, angina	...	...	...	37	13	28	19
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	3	6	7	3
20	Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	28	35	27	33
21	Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	...	8	5	8	9
22	Influenza	...	...	...	8	10	—	1
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	18	7	5	6
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	18	9	17	8
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	...	1	1	—	5
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	3	1	3	1
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	5	4	1	—
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	8	—	8	—
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
31	Congenital Malformation	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
32	Other defined and illdefined diseases	...	...	...	22	16	24	22
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	5	—	2	3
34	All other Accidents	...	...	...	3	5	1	6
35	Suicide	...	...	...	5	2	3	2
36	Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Totals					237	201	210	187

Birth Rate, Death Rate and Analysis of Mortality during the Year, 1951

	Rate per 1,000 total population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population								Rate per 1,000 live Births	
	Live-Births	Still-Births	All causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	Pneumonia	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	15.5	0.36	12.5	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.31	0.38	0.00	0.61	1.4	29.6
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	17.3	0.45	13.4	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.37	0.36	0.01	0.65	1.6	33.9
148 Smaller Towns (estimated resident populations 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	16.7	0.38	12.5	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.31	0.38	0.01	0.63	1.0	27.6
High Wycombe	15.38	0.36	10.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.44	0.00	0.85	0.00	25.20

Maternal Mortality

	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
	England and Wales	High Wycombe
Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	...	0.00
Abortion with toxæmia	...	0.00
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	...	0.00
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	...	0.00
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	...	0.00
Abortion with sepsis	...	0.00
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	...	0.00

## SECTION II

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

#### Hospitals

The High Wycombe War Memorial Hospital is situated in the town. This is a general hospital of 100 beds with an annexe at Booker which has Geriatric, and Ear Nose and Throat units comprising 46 beds. The Shrubbery Maternity Home of 20 beds is also in the Borough.

Infectious disease cases now go to Aylesbury Isolation Hospital or to the Isolation Hospitals at Maidenhead or Reading.

#### Professional Nursing in the Home

This is undertaken by the nurses stationed at the Grange, Amersham Hill—two of whom are engaged on general nursing work and three on midwifery. The Home Nursing Service is the responsibility of the County Council.

#### Ambulance Facilities

These are provided by the Bucks County Council with the aid of the local branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The headquarters are at the Municipal Offices.

#### Clinics and Treatment Centres

##### (a) Administered by the Bucks County Council.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic	Municipal Health Centre. Tuesdays, 10—11 a.m., Wednesdays, 2—3 p.m.
Women's Advisory Clinic	Municipal Health Centre, Mondays, 2—4 p.m.
Infant Welfare Centres	Municipal Health Centre, Dyke Meadow Tuesdays and Fridays, 2—4 p.m. Methodist Schoolroom, Chapel Lane, Sands. Tuesdays, 2—4 p.m. Methodist Schoolroom, West Wycombe. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2—4 p.m. Turner's Sports Pavilion, Totteridge. Every Thursday, 2—4 p.m. St. Anne's Church Hall, Wycombe Marsh. Every Thursday, 2—4 p.m. St. Birinus' Church Hall, Booker. Every Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.

##### (b) Administered by the Regional Hospital Board.

Tuberculosis Clinic	War Memorial Hospital, Tuesdays, 9.30—1.00. 49a Frogmoor. Mondays, 10.00—12.00, Wednesdays 10.00—1.00, Fridays, 10.00—1.00.
Venereal Diseases Clinic	49a Frogmoor. Mondays 2—7 p.m., Thursdays 4—7 p.m.

Dr. Korn is in attendance.

#### Laboratory Facilities

Facilities are provided by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service at Oxford.



### SECTION III

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

The following Clinics are administered by the Bucks County Council :

Sunlight Clinic.—Children under school age.

Dental Clinic.—Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under school age.

Ophthalmic Clinic.—Children under school age.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.—Children under school age.

#### Infantile Mortality

The following table gives the infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births for High Wycombe and England and Wales for the last ten years: —

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
England & Wales	49	49	46	46	43	41	34	32	29.8	29.6
High Wycombe	35.6	24.6	34.7	31.9	14.9	28.05	20.62	25.28	24.27	25.20

#### Infantile Mortality

Sixteen infants under the age of twelve months died during 1951, giving an infantile mortality rate of 25.20 per 1,000 live births.

### SECTION IV

#### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIONS DISEASE

##### (a) Notifiable Diseases

The table on the following page gives the number of cases during the year.

##### (b) Immunisation against Diphtheria

The County Council are responsible for this service. Immunisation is carried out at all the Welfare Clinics and in the Schools.

##### (c) Scabies

All cases are now treated by private doctors. Cases are very few in number.

##### (d) Isolation Hospital

All cases of infectious disease needing hospital treatment are sent to Aylesbury, Reading or Maidenhead.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TABLE FOR 1951

Disease		Total cases Notified	0-1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age unknown
Meningococcal	Meningitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Smallpox	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	... ..	11	—	1	2	4	1	2	1	—
Diphtheria	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	... ..	39	—	1	—	4	1	—	32	1
Erysipelas	... ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Measles	... ..	514	9	81	158	246	8	6	5	1
Whooping Cough	... ..	45	5	12	11	14	1	—	—	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	... ..	30	—	—	—	3	1	7	19	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning	... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	... ..	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
		653	16	95	172	271	13	16	65	5



## SECTION V

## Tuberculosis

The tuberculosis service is administered by the Regional Hospital Board. The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in High Wycombe during 1951.

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Grand Totals
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
No. on Register on 1st January, 1951 ... ..	144	105	249	41	40	81	330
No. first notified during 1951 ... ..	16	14	30	1	—	1	31
No. of cases entered in Register other than by notification ... ..	6	5	11	—	—	—	11
No. removed from Register during 1951:— ...							
(a) Died ... ..	6	2	8	—	—	—	8
(b) Removed from District ...	4	2	6	1	—	1	7
(c) De-Notified ...	4	2	6	—	—	—	6
No. remaining on Register, 31/12/51 ... ..	152	118	270	41	40	81	351

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1951, are given in full detail in the following table :

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
0—1 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ... ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 ... ..	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 ... ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ... ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45 ... ..	3	2	1	—	1	1	—	—
45—55 ... ..	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 ... ..	3	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 and over ... ..	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	16	14	1	—	6	2	—	—

SECTION VI

ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR  
for the year 1951

Municipal Offices  
High Wycombe,  
October, 1952.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN  
and  
COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGH WYCOMBE

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1951.

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, which came into force during the year, was the most welcome item of legislation for a long time. It provides for the licensing of premises where Rag Flock is manufactured or stored for resale, and for the registration of premises where Rag Flock or Other Fillings as defined in the Act are used. It also provides that all materials used in connection with upholstery etc., are now subject to a standard of cleanliness.

The Housing situation is still a major problem and although it is not the responsibility of the department to provide new houses, the position demands that every endeavour be made to see that houses are maintained in a reasonable state of repair. It is for this purpose that routine inspections have been carried out.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their practical interest in the many problems placed before them during the year.

The continued loyalty and enthusiasm of the members of the staff have made light of many difficult situations and, coupled with the fine team spirit which exists, are responsible for the successful working of the department.

The co-operation of all officials during the year is also gratefully acknowledged.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. SHARP,  
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

### Infectious Diseases

Visits Paid	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

### Disinfection of Rooms

Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	9
Non-notifiable diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5

### Disinfection—Bedding

	<i>Disinfected</i>	<i>Destroyed</i>
From Private Houses—No. of articles	57	7
Other articles removed on request and for which payment was made: —		
(a) Neighbouring Authorities	30	—
(b) Private firms, etc.	23	—

### Disinfection

The Steam Disinfector was not in working order during most of the year, as steam supply from the refuse destructor was not available, owing to the discontinuance of the incineration of refuse. This was a serious drawback to the department. The Health Committee, however, took steps to have a separate steam-raising plant fitted, the installation of which was practically complete at the end of the year.

### Disinfestation

#### Eradication of the Bed Bug

	No. of Houses	No. of Rooms	2nd Treat- ments
Private Houses	8	15	2
Council Houses	6	11	1

It is interesting to note that the number of verminous premises is declining from year to year and this appears common throughout the country. Although the reason for this decline is not known, it may be due to (a) the improved housing situation, (b) the willingness of occupants to notify the local authority of the presence of vermin, or (c) the increased use of Insecticides. Whatever the cause, the improvement is most welcome from a sanitary point of view.

### WATER SUPPLY

The water from the Public Supply has been sampled regularly and the results have been satisfactory.

Twenty-four samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford, for bacteriological examination. I would like to thank the Laboratory Service for their co-operation during the year.

Four samples were submitted to the London laboratory for chemical and bacteriological examination.

All samples were reported to be satisfactory.



## STATISTICS

	No. of houses piped supply	No. of houses by standpipe	Estimated population served
Borough of High Wycombe	11,468	15	44,000
Supplied by Corporation works to places outside the area of the Borough ...	1,388	39	6,000

## MILK SUPPLY

### Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949

### Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949

As this Council is responsible for licensing and sampling under the provisions of the above Regulations, numerous duties are incurred including the issue of Dealers' Licences to retailers of milk whose premises are situated in the Borough and who are desirous of using either of the following designations in relation to milk retailed by them: —“Pasteurised”, “Sterilised”, “Tuberculin Tested” or “Accredited”. In addition Supplementary Licences are issued to dairymen whose premises are situated outside the Borough but who require to retail any designated milks within the Borough.

### “PASTEURISED” MILK

There is one Pasteurising Plant within the Borough. This is fitted with modern equipment and the output of Pasteurised Milk has continued throughout the year with few complaints. When, however, complaints have been justified, the cause has usually been a mechanical fault and every endeavour has been made by the firm to rectify the matter at the earliest possible moment. Orders have been given for the installation of the latest H.T.S.T. (High Temperature Short Time) Pasteurisation Plant. When this is installed it will result in an improved layout and increased production and the plant, although smaller than some, will compare favourably with many larger installations.

The sampling of Pasteurised Milk supplied by retailers holding Dealers Licences caused great concern, it being felt that the bottling of this type of milk by the retailers appeared to be the cause of failures of the Phosphatase Test. When a sample failed the prescribed test inquiries were made from all sources and although no satisfactory explanation was found, it was assumed that the fault must have been some time during the bottling. The most satisfactory solution is for the milk to be bottled at the place where it is Pasteurised and for it to be delivered within the area around the Pasteurising Plant. The milk would thus receive the minimum amount of handling, could be pasteurised within a few hours of its production, and rigid supervision could be maintained on the premises where it is pasteurised and bottled.

In my 1950 report, I stated that the smaller dairymen were apathetic towards a proposal for the erection of a Central Dairy for the Pasteurisation of Milk. It is now pleasing to report that a small number of these dairymen have got together for this purpose and have reached the stage where the land has been obtained and plans submitted. Government consent concerning the financial aspect is of course necessary.

If the proposed dairy is brought into being, there would appear to be no reason why any milk not bearing the designation "Pasteurised" or "Tuberculin Tested" need be supplied in the Borough.

### **"TUBERCULIN TESTED" MILK**

The demand for this type of designated milk continued to increase and its quality and cleanliness was maintained. Although a few samples failed the Methylene Blue Test, these failures were only of a spasmodic nature and were principally during the summer months.

In the event of a failure, the dairyman is notified and every endeavour made to trace the cause. The dairy is inspected and further samples are taken. If this proves of no avail, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Milk Division) is informed so that they may check on the method of production.

The co-operation of the Ministry's Officers is a valuable asset in remedying any failures and ensures immediate attention to complaints and helps in safeguarding the cleanliness of the town's milk supply.

### **DESIGNATED MILK SAMPLING)**

There was an increase in the number of samples of designated milk taken during the year, and due to this an increase in the number which failed the prescribed tests. These failures were not, however, due to the general grade of milk, but solely the fact that a large number of identical samples were taken in order to trace the cause of an original failure.

All samples of designated milks were sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford, whose advice is always sought and freely given in cases of difficulty.

### **Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949**

Licences granted by the Town Council under the above Regulations, during 1951, were:—

Pasteuriser's Licence	...	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised (Dealer's) Licence	...	...	...	...	8
Sterilised (Dealer's) Licence	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculin Tested (Dealer's) Licence	...	...	...	...	19
Supplementary—Tuberculin Tested—Licence	...	...	...	...	1



## Results of Samples taken: —

		No. of Samples taken	Results	
			Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	...	86	73	13
Pasteurised (School)	...	9	7	2
Tuberculin Tested	...	148	130	18
T.T/Pasteurised	...	37	34	3
Total		280	244	36

**MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION****Meat Inspection**

Slaughtering is carried out at the Central Slaughterhouse in Easton Street, and in spite of the difficulties which have been previously reported, a 100% inspection of the meat has been maintained.

The results of efforts now being made by the Corporation and the Ministry of Food to improve the conditions at the slaughterhouse are keenly awaited, and when the arrangements are complete it is anticipated that an increase in slaughtering will take place, and facilities for inspection will be improved considerably.

**Slaughter of Animals**

The total number of animals slaughtered at the Government Controlled Slaughterhouse during 1951 was: —

Oxen	...	...	...	...	...	2,101
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	406
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	1,504
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	5,549
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	16
Total						9,576

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	2,101	406	1,504	5,549	16
NON-TUBERCULOSIS:					
Whole Carcases condemned	2	14	2	4	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	592	72	2	495	3
Percentage of the number killed affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis ...	28.27	21.18	0.27	8.99	31.25
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:					
Whole Carcases condemned	9	4	3	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	176	32	—	—	—
Percentage of the number killed affected with Tuber- culosis ... ..	8.81	8.87	0.19	—	—

The weight of condemned meat and offal for the year 1951 was as follows: —

Beef in Carcase	...	...	...	...	12,189	lbs.
Beef NOT in Carcase	...	...	...	...	5,165	lbs.
Mutton in Carcase	...	...	...	...	345	lbs.
Mutton NOT in Carcase	...	...	...	...	83	lbs.
Veal in Carcase	...	...	...	...	342	lbs.
Veal NOT in Carcase	...	...	...	...	17	lbs.
Pork in Carcase	...	...	...	...	215	lbs.
Pork NOT in Carcase	...	...	...	...	47	lbs.
Offal	...	...	...	...	14,382½	lbs.
						<hr/>
						32,785½ lbs.
						<hr/>

32,785½ lbs. — 14 tons 12 cwts. 2 qrs. 25½lbs.

Table Showing Condemned Organs of Animals

	Heads	Tongues	Lungs	Hearts	Skirts	Livers	Spleens	Tripes	Cauls	Intestines	Mesenteries	Kidneys	Uteri	Bones	Udders	Tails	Totals
<b>CATTLE</b>																	
Tuberculosis	123	125	132	13	15	59	13	14	13	13	13	13	8	13	5	13	585
Abscess	1	1	4	2	5	57	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70
Actinomy- cosis	11	12	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Cav. Angioma	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	—	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	59
Cystic	—	—	1	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Distomum Hepaticum	—	—	—	—	—	403	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	403
Dropsical	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	15
Emaciation	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	—	3	3	3	45
Mastitis	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	8	—	11
Oedema	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	—	4	60
Pneumonia	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Septic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16
<b>CALVES</b>																	
Tuberculosis	3	3	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	24
Emaciation	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
Jaundice	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
Pyæmia	1	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
<b>SHEEP</b>																	
Abscess	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Cystic	—	—	2	2	—	245	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	251
Distomum Hepaticum	—	—	—	—	—	92	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	92
Emaciation	3	3	3	3	—	3	3	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Strongilosis	—	—	—	—	—	168	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	168
<b>PIGS</b>																	
Anaemia	2	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Pneumonia	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Septic	—	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Totals	155	158	165	40	29	1140	32	24	25	32	23	27	14	22	17	22	1925

## OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

Baby Food, 32 tins	Jam, 9 tins
Bacon, 17 lbs.	Jellies, 27 pkts.
Beans, 239 tins	Meat, 646 tins
Biscuits, 15 pkts.	Milk, 72 tins
Cheese, 35 lbs.	Paste, 1 jar
Coconut, 47 lbs.	Peas, 100 tins
Coconut Ice, 58½ lbs.	Pickles, 10 jars
Coffee, 1 jar	Pudding Mixtures, 28 pkts.
Cordials, 25 bott.	Rabbit, 60 lbs.
Corned Beef, 225¾ lbs.	Rabbit, 2 cases
Chicken, 4 carcasses	Sausages, 75 lbs.
Chicken, 6 tins	Soups, 77 tins
Eggs, 69	Sweets, 130 chocs.
Fish, 32 tins	Tea, 2 lbs.
Fish (Wet), 94½ stone	Turkey, 3 carcasses
Fishcakes, 184	Vegetables, 166 tins
Fruit, 658 tins	

## FACTORIES ACT 1937

Inspection of factories has been carried out during the year, as follows: —

### Statistics

Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	380
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	42
Number of complaints received from H.M.					
Inspector of Factories	...	...	...	...	5
Number of Fire Certificates issued	...	...	...	...	6

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The following samples were submitted to the Public Analyst with the results shown: —

Article Sampled	How Sampled		Result	
	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Almond Essence	...	...	1	—
Aspirin Tablets	...	...	2	—
Baking Powder	...	...	1	—
Bisurated Magnesia Tablets	..	...	1	—
Blanc Mange Powder	...	...	2	—
Boracic Crystals	...	...	1	—
Boracic Powder	...	...	1	—
Brandy Snaps	...	...	1	—
Butter	...	...	1	1
Butterkist	...	...	1	—
Cake Mixture	..	...	1	—



*Food & Drugs, continued*

Article Sampled	How sampled		Result	
	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Caraway Seed ... ..	1	—	1	—
Christmas Pudding ... ..	3	—	3	—
Cocoa ... ..	1	—	1	—
Coffee ... ..	1	—	1	—
Cooking Fat ... ..	1	—	1	—
Cream of Tartar ... ..	1	—	1	—
Crystallised Ginger ... ..	1	—	1	—
Curry Powder ... ..	2	—	2	—
Custard Powder ... ..	4	—	4	—
Dates ... ..	1	—	1	—
Drinking Chocolate ... ..	1	—	1	—
Dutch White Fondant ... ..	2	—	2	—
Eggoroni ... ..	1	—	1	—
Fat Emulsion ... ..	1	—	1	—
Fish Paste ... ..	1	—	1	—
Fruit Sauce ... ..	1	—	1	—
Gelatine ... ..	2	—	2	—
Gin ... ..	3	—	3	—
Glace Cherries ... ..	2	—	2	—
Ground Almonds ... ..	1	—	1	—
Ground Ginger ... ..	1	—	1	—
Ground Rice ... ..	1	—	1	—
Ice Cream ... ..	8	3	11	—
Jams ... ..	3	—	3	—
Jellies ... ..	10	—	10	—
Lemonade Powder ... ..	1	—	1	—
Maltola ... ..	1	—	1	—
Margarine ... ..	2	—	2	—
Marmalade ... ..	2	—	2	—
Milk ... ..	68	4	64	8
Mincemeat ... ..	5	—	5	—
Mixed Herbs ... ..	2	—	2	—
Mixed Spice ... ..	1	—	1	—
Molasses ... ..	1	—	1	—
Morfat Whipping ... ..	1	—	1	—
Pea Flour ... ..	1	—	1	—
Peel ... ..	2	—	2	—
Pepper ... ..	8	—	8	—
Pickle ... ..	1	—	1	—
Processed Cheese Spread ... ..	1	—	1	—
Pudding Mixture ... ..	1	—	1	—
Pudding Spice ... ..	1	—	1	—
Roastex ... ..	1	—	1	—
Sage ... ..	1	—	1	—
Salad Cream ... ..	—	1	1	—
Sausages (Beef) ... ..	1	—	1	—
Sausages (Pork) ... ..	6	—	6	—
Sausagemeat (Beef) ... ..	9	—	9	—
Sausage Roll ... ..	1	—	1	—
Soup ... ..	2	—	2	—
Spice (Pickling) ... ..	1	—	1	—
Sponge Mixture ... ..	2	—	2	—
Suet ... ..	1	1	2	—
Sulphur Ointment ... ..	1	—	—	1
Sweets ... ..	24	1	25	—
Table Salt ... ..	1	—	1	—
Tapioca Flakes ... ..	1	—	1	—
Tea ... ..	3	—	3	—
Vegetable Salad ... ..	1	—	1	—
Wines ... ..	4	—	4	—
Totals	226	11	228	9



## LABORATORY TESTING OF MILK

An identical sample of all the 68 formal samples of milk was tested in the laboratory and when the test sample was satisfactory the formal sample was not sent to the Public Analyst.

In addition 84 other samples of milk were tested in the laboratory.

## ICE CREAM SAMPLING

The fat content of the 11 Ice Cream samples were as follows:

1	...	...	8.32%	7	...	...	10.28%
2	...	...	9.74%	8	...	...	10.50%
3	...	...	10.0 %	9	...	...	10.54%
4	...	...	10.03%	10	...	...	10.62%
5	...	...	10.19%	11	...	...	10.64%
6	...	...	10.20%				

Sixteen samples of Ice Cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination and the results were as follows: —

Provisional Grade 1	...	...	...	8 samples
Provisional Grade 2	...	...	...	4 samples
Provisional Grade 3	...	...	...	3 samples
Provisional Grade 4	...	...	...	1 sample

## GENERAL REPORT ON UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

### Milk

In all the 8 cases of Milk reported as “not genuine” the reason for failure was that the fat content was below the required amount. Investigations were undertaken in each case and further samples taken. These proved satisfactory.

### Sulphur Ointment

This sample contained a small excess of Sulphur. It was ascertained from the manufacturers that the sample in question came from very old stock and the remainder was withdrawn from sale.

## RAG FLOCK ACTS 1911-1912

During the year sampling of Rag Flock was carried out at frequent intervals. It was not found necessary to institute any proceedings as all samples submitted for analysis were satisfactory. Since in previous years it was necessary to institute proceedings in a number of cases, this is considered highly satisfactory and can probably be attributed to two things; the wholehearted co-operation of all manufacturers of upholstery and bedding to ensure that all rag flock complied with the standard of cleanliness and bore the mark of the British Standards Institute; and to the continued supervision of rag flock during manufacture.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951

The placing on the Statute of the above Act is due to the endeavours of manufacturers and users of filling materials throughout the country, and of the various trade organisations; the Trade Union; the Association of Municipal Corporations; the local Member of Parliament and lastly the direct approach made by this Authority to the Ministry of Health.

The Act provides for (a) the licensing of premises used for the manufacture of rag flock, and premises where rag flock is stored for resale (the licences to be renewed annually); and the registration of premises where rag flock or other filling materials as defined by the Act are used.

The occupiers of licensed registered premises are compelled to keep an up-to-date register of all consignments received and in the case of licensed premises the register must show where the rag flock has been sent. No rag flock must be consigned to unregistered premises and occupiers of registered premises must obtain their supplies from licensed dealers. This provides a complete check from the manufacturer to the upholsterer.

As compared with the old Acts when only samples of rag flock could be taken, the new Act provides that every filling material can now be sampled, and furthermore there is an important provision that where suspicion exists, a finished upholstered product can be opened and a sample of the filling analysed. There is, however, a safeguard to the trade that when a sample is taken in these circumstances and the report on the sample shows it to be satisfactory, the local authority under whose jurisdiction the sample was taken must recompense the owner of the article for all damage done in the process of sampling.

It will be seen that the Act is highly important to a town such as High Wycombe, and although the work of the department will be greatly increased, it is wholeheartedly welcomed. In this town the quality of filling materials has always been good, but the provisions now in force should have a beneficial effect in other parts of the country if they are administered as intended, and I have no doubt they will be if the interest already shown be continued.

The interest shown in the Rag Flock Acts by my predecessor, Mr. L. Chadwick, has not diminished since his retirement, and the knowledge which he has freely passed to me during our long professional association is gratefully acknowledged. With this knowledge and as a result of my own experience I have been able to impart information to others by means of talks and demonstrations.

For the purpose of comparison of these filling materials a specimen case of all materials now used in upholstery has been prepared and is available for inspection by any interested person.

The following materials are now subject to a standard of cleanliness under the Act: —

- (a) rag flock,
- (b) unwoven cotton, cotton linters, cotton millpuffs, cotton felt, cotton flock.



- (c) unwoven wool, wollen felt, woollen flock,
- (d) jute,
- (e) unwoven synthetic fibres, synthetic fibre flock,
- (f) hair,
- (g) feathers or down,
- (h) kapok,
- (i) coir fibre, Algerian fibre, Mexican fibre, sisal,
- (j) seaweed, seagrass, Spanish moss,
- (k) straw or chaff,
- (l) such other articles as may be prescribed.

*Rubberised Hair.* This product is not specifically mentioned, but it is under consideration by the Analysts to whose attention it has been drawn.

### Statistics

Licences to Manufacture to 31/12/51	...	...	1
Licences to Store Rag Flock for Resale to 31/12/51			5
Registration of Premises to 31/12/51	...	...	92

### Sampling

Details of samples of Rag Flock taken during the year, showing the chlorine content: —

- 4 samples contained less than 10 parts per 100,000
- 13 samples contained less than 15 parts per 100,000
- 8 samples contained less than 20 parts per 100,000

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25 samples.

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### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

Acts, Orders and Regulations under which Proceedings were instituted.	Default or Offence	Result	Fines
Food & Drugs Act 1938—Section 3	Selling to the prejudice of the purchaser as butter a mixture of butter and margarine.	Absolute Discharge	Costs £1/5/0
Food & Drugs Act 1938—Section 9	Selling a mince pie which was intended for, but unfit for, human consumption, in that it contained an iron nail.	Conviction	Fined £5
Food & Drugs Act 1938—Section 9	Selling cake which was intended for, but unfit for human consumption, in that it contained a nail.	Conviction	Fined £5

## PESTS ACT, 1950

The above Act has been administered successfully throughout the year and only a few major infestations have been encountered. The continual inspection of suspected areas and individual places has been the means of preventing larger infestations.

In certain cases agreements were entered into with large Commercial firms and regular treatment of their premises was carried out.

In one particular instance the assistance of the department was sought by a local firm to eliminate a major infestation by rats, after all efforts by them had failed. Assistance was immediately given and it is pleasing to report that the premises are now practically free from rodents.

The majority of the complaints received were from occupiers whose premises were infested by mice.

The Sewage Farm, Open Spaces and Refuse Tips were treated as occasion demanded and no major trouble was experienced.

Details of inspection and treatment are as follows: —

### Statistics

Agreements: Current	...	...	...	...	14
Total complaints received (each complaint requiring a minimum of 6 visits for treatment)	...	...	...	...	302
Business Premises	...	...	...	...	43
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	237
Factories	...	...	...	...	17
Not justified	...	...	...	...	5

Treatment was carried out on the Borough Sewer system in January and June. Infestation was found to be only slight.

## BOROUGH MORTUARY

The administration of the Mortuary continued throughout the year without complaint.

The Cold Room (Refrigerator) was in almost continuous use with no breakdown. It has been the means of improving working conditions and is proving its worth.

### Statistics

Number of bodies deposited during the year	...	...	...	...	57
Number of post mortems held	...	...	...	...	49

## HANDLING, PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD

The results of the publicity given in previous years to the danger of infection carried by unhygienic handling of food have been shown during the year.

The condition of the kitchens of cafes, restaurants, etc., has shown improvement and more attention is now being paid to detail.

Many necessary alterations are made by means of personal contact and verbal indication of requirements. This policy is having good effect as it gives the food handlers an opportunity to state their case and receive advice on the spot.

A number of applications for licences to serve meals has been made to the Ministry of Food during the year, and the policy of the Ministry has been to notify this department and to obtain particulars as to the condition of the premises concerned. They do not issue their licence until a satisfactory report is received. This policy is very welcome and gives the local authority an opportunity to prevent unsuitable premises being licensed.

#### **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 — SECTION 50**

The necessary investigations have been carried out when applications for assistance have been made and every consideration taken into account. Assistance was given only when the applicant was entitled to benefit in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Throughout the year two cases were granted assistance.

#### **SLIPPER BATHS**

There was no material difference in the number of persons using the Slipper Baths during the year compared with the previous year.

Every effort was made to improve the attendance by the alteration of hours etc., but to no avail.



**GENERAL STATISTICS**

Table showing the number of inspections made during the year 1951:—

Accumulations, Ashes, etc.	...	...	...	75
Animals and Birds	...	...	...	34
Bakehouses	...	...	...	69
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	305
Drains cleared	...	...	...	137
Drainage inspected	...	...	...	269
Drainage Tested	...	...	...	1
Entertainment Houses	...	...	...	7
Factories	...	...	...	380
Factory (Canteens)	...	...	...	7
Food Premises, Grocery Shops, etc.	...	...	...	193
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	39
Fish Shops and Fried Fish Premises	...	...	...	77
Greengrocers, etc.	...	...	...	36
Housing Act (routine inspections)	...	...	...	277
Ice Cream Premises and Sampling	...	...	...	107
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	100
Interviews	...	...	...	705
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	4
Markets	...	...	...	208
Materials—Visits for issue of permits	...	...	...	15
Milk Shops and Dairies	...	...	...	396
Overcrowding	...	...	...	56
Police Court Visits	...	...	...	4
Public Health Act (premises visited)	...	...	...	654
Rats and Mice (Inspector's Visits)	...	...	...	88
Rats and Mice (Rodent Operator's Visits)	...	...	...	1,872
Rats and Mice (Rodent Operator's Visits on contracts)	...	...	...	1,009
Rats and Mice (Rodent Operator's Visits on Sewers and block infestation)	...	...	...	137
Rag Flock	...	...	...	181
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	120
Rivers, Watercourses, Ditches and Ponds	...	...	...	151
Sampling visits Food and Drugs	...	...	...	250
Sampling visits Water Supplies	...	...	...	33
Sampling visits Ice Cream	...	...	...	85
Sampling visits Milk (bacteriological samples)	...	...	...	278
Schools	...	...	...	16
Shops Act	...	...	...	278
Slaughterhouse for Meat Inspection	...	...	...	1,070
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	75
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	57
Stalls and Hawkers' Carts	...	...	...	1,040
Hutted Camp	...	...	...	20
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	46
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	41
Explosives Act	...	...	...	315
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	95
Total				11,412





